

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 12, 1891.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. VEST, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany S. 3854.]

The committee recommend that this bill be passed, amending it so that the amount appropriated be \$50,000. In support of the same they respectfully submit the following:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISING ARCHITECT,
Washington, D. C., May 26, 1890.

SIR: The letter from your committee dated the 23d instant requested an official report from this office upon Senate bill 3854, introduced May 16, 1890, by Hon. Richard Coke, to provide for the acquisition of a site and the erection thereon of a public building for the post office and other government uses at Laredo, Tex., at a cost not to exceed \$75,000.

In reply I have the honor to submit the following:

Copy of a letter dated May 15, 1890, addressed to this office by the postmaster of Laredo, Tex.

Copy of a report dated May 17, 1890, addressed to this office by the honorable Postmaster-General.

By reference to page 1042, Report of the Postmaster-General for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, it will be observed that the gross postal receipts in said city for said fiscal year were \$7,642.55; the salary, clerk hire, rent, light and fuel, and other incidental expenses aggregated \$2,892.21; the net postal receipts were \$4,750.34, and that in addition to said post office being self-sustaining, it yielded a net postal revenue of 62 per cent.

With the amount of money which the bill proposes to fix as the limit of cost of the site and building, from computations made, based upon data received, it is found that a building two stories high with basement, to accommodate the post office, customhouse, and United States courts, the first story for post office and customhouse, the second story for the courts, about 50 by 80 feet in dimensions, giving about 4,000 square feet of floor area on each floor, or 2,000 square feet on first floor for post office, increasing present post office accommodations about 125 per cent. and giving 2,000 square feet on first floor for customhouse, increasing the present customhouse accommodations about 25 per cent.; and 4,000 square feet on the second floor for the courts, the building to be of brick, faced with stone, not of fireproof construction, including heating apparatus, vaults and approaches, and excluding elevator service, can be erected for about \$65,000, which will leave \$15,000 for the purchase of property for the site.

Such a public building of first-class and fireproof construction can be erected for \$80,000.

By reference to the letter from the postmaster, above referred to, it will be observed that he estimates the value of land suitable for a site at about \$20,000.

Respectfully yours,

JAS. H. WINDRIM,
Supervising Architect.

HON. LELAND STANFORD,
Chairman Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, U. S. Senate.

